



USO brings a taste of America to service members and their families on Okinawa. See story, page 15.

November 3, 2000

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

[www.okinawa.usmc.mil](http://www.okinawa.usmc.mil)

## Morning walk

Lance Cpl. Clifford Brown-Jimenez steers Suginoko preschooler Nakou Kae during the wheelbarrow race at Camp Hansen Oct. 28. Brown-Jimenez is a communication technician with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group. Volunteer Marines and Sailors from his unit hosted 28 kids from the Kin Town Suginoko School to help them improve their English skills and make some new friends on base. See the full story on page 15.



PFC. KEITH R. MEIKLE

## MCI brief explains educational updates

### Representatives visit island to update and inform customers

Lance Cpl. Chad E. Swaim

*Combat Correspondent*

**CAMP KINSER** — Officials from Marine Corps Institute along with their Mobile Training Team visited Okinawa Oct. 23-25 and held several seminars.

"Every year we come out to meet our customers," said Lt. Col. Glenn E. Gearhard, deputy director, MCI. "We want to make sure we give them information. We tell them what's new with MCI, what products we have and what services we have available. It's also an opportunity to talk to our customers and hear what their concerns are," Gearhard said.

Major commands Corpswide receive annual visits from MCI representatives to help spread the word about new developments and lend a helping hand to anyone having trouble with the MCI program.

"Everybody has an idea on what they think MCI is. There are things in the last two years that are very different at MCI," compared to, "what MCI did five years ago," Gearhard said.

Marine leaders here were briefed on MCI courses available and some recent changes to the MCI program such as: CD-ROM-based courses, portable format documents available over the Internet, browser-based courses at learning resource centers and new courses added to the MCI curriculum.

"I usually take a survey in the room to see how many people know that MCI offers CD-ROM-based courses; about 10 percent of the people have heard of that before," Gearhard said.

Those attending the MCI brief also received information on how to manage a unit MCI programs and also how to prepare MCI-related material for major inspections.

Noncommissioned officers who attended the brief learned about something called the Unit Verification Report which is a tool available on the MCI website. The UVR allows training NCOs and officers to see the status of all Marines in their unit enrolled in MCI courses, according to Gearhard.

"The UVR is going to help a lot," said Cpl. Jason R. Anderson, training clerk, 3rd Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group. "It will let me know who is enrolled in MCI courses and what their status is."

MCI currently has 160,000 active students with 625,000 course enrollments per year.

The seminar is available online at [www.mci.usmc.mil](http://www.mci.usmc.mil).



SGT. ROBERT J. ANGUS

Representatives from MCI handed out CD-ROMs that have a short interactive presentation about MCI courses offered.

## Flu vaccine shipment delayed

Lance Cpl. Josh P. Vierela

*Combat Correspondent*

**CAMP LESTER** — Those worried about getting their annual shot of influenza vaccination can relax ... at least for a while.

Okinawa-based service members and their families will have to wait to receive their flu shot. A delay in shipment will bring the vaccine to Okinawa medical clinics about 60 days later than usual, said Cmdr. William J. Upham, director, Community Health Services, U.S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester.

Flu vaccinations are normally given in early October. But manufacturers, Upham said, experienced a delay in developing the annual influenza vaccine that protects people from the most current strains of flu virus. He said Okinawa medical clinics should receive the new flu vaccine sometime in late November.

When the vaccine arrives, however, service members will be required to roll up their sleeves.

"Vaccinations are mandatory for both hospital staff and service members," said Seaman Charles Mahon, hospitalman, USNH. "The vaccine can be obtained at battalion aid stations, branch clinics or the Naval Hospital."

Those who have health risks, such as asthma, and anyone over the age of 65 have priority in receiving a flu shot. Pregnant women are advised not to take the flu shot, but they are still eligible to receive them, Mahon said.

The Naval Hospital is expecting to give out flu shots

through February, and possibly March, according to Mahon. The shots will remain available till the end of flu season or until supplies run out.

For more information, contact the hospital at 643-7509.

## Oki drug program receives award

American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** — The U.S. Marine Corps' Substance Abuse Counseling Center at Camp Butler was awarded the Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award Oct. 23 at a Pentagon ceremony that recognized five military commands for exemplary anti-drug awareness and education programs.

Ana Maria Salazar, deputy assistant secretary of defense for drug enforcement policy and support, presented the award to Dr. Howard Watson, Camp Butler's Substance Abuse Counseling Center director. The ceremony was part of DoD's annual Red Ribbon Week.

**AWARD, continued on page 3**

**Report off-base traffic violations at 645-7441/7442**

# Oki duty keeps Sailors aboard

Cpl. Matthew S. Bates

Combat Correspondent

**CAMP COURTNEY** — Sailors assigned to the 3rd Marine Division are doing something right and they have numbers to prove it. More than 75 percent are extending their tour here and reenlistments are up to 67 percent. Promotions aren’t bad either. The Division recently posted a selection rate to petty officer first class of 39 percent. The Navy average is less than 10 percent.

But how they’re doing it is no secret. In fact, it is something that has been around as long as the military ... teamwork.

“We combine all the factors necessary to create a cohesive unit,” said Chief Petty Officer Jack Bosma, Navy command career counselor for 3rd MarDiv. “And then we implement them.”

Bosma said training is one reason Division Sailors are doing so well. Most have a wider range of opportunity to learn new skills and practice old ones while in Okinawa. For example, a corpsman working with the 12th Marine Regiment will not only hone his medical expertise while serving with Division Marines, but he may also learn how to fire a M240G machine gun, pull the lanyard on a M198 155mm Howitzer, or slide out the back end of a helicopter on a rope.

“Once these young Sailors come over here and work with Marines, going back to shore duty at a hospital or Naval base just doesn’t seem as exciting,” Bosma said. “Granted, not all of these experiences are exciting, but they are still opportunities that they wouldn’t have in many other places.”

One such training opportunity is the Jungle Warfare Training Center. At JWTC, the Division trains dozens of corpsmen on valuable combat skills necessary to survive and treat casualties in a hostile jungle environment. Even Navy chaplains and religious program specialists hold annual training sessions at JWTC to develop basic combat and jungle survival skills.



CMDR. MICHAEL MADDOX

**Soaked in a combination of sweat and mud after completing an endurance course at Okinawa’s Jungle Warfare Training Center Sept. 29, Petty Officer 3rd class Andrew Loomis takes a breather. Loomis is a corpsman assigned to Hawaii-based 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines, 3rd Marine Division. The unit is on temporary assignment to Okinawa as part of the Unit Deployment Program. The endurance course was part of a Jungle Combat Trauma Course attended by 50 corpsmen at JWTC who learned combat-scenario medical procedures during the training. Loomis said he is studying to become a doctor and plans to apply for a medical scholarship through the Navy when he finishes his five-year enlistment in 2003.**

Off duty and military education is also a high priority for their Sailors, Division leaders say.

One military education program called Continued Medical Education offers Sailors monthly classes by Cmdr. Michael Maddox, 3rd Marine Division’s Surgeon. Maddox’s classes introduce Sailors to new medical procedures and help them brush up on old ones. While these classes are primarily aimed at improving the skills of the Division’s medical officers, Maddox

opens them to enlisted medical personnel too.

Promotion rates at the Division are among the highest in the Navy Bosma said.

“Eleven of 17 eligible Sailors, 65 percent, were selected to the rank of chief petty officer,” said Master Chief Petty Officer Timothy Fox, command master chief, 3rd MarDiv. “The Navy average to chief is 25 percent.”

“It all centers around job satisfaction,” Bosma said. “If you love your job, you’ll want to keep doing it.”

# Lejeune Marines take oath while deployed to Okinawa

## Mass reenlistment sends 1/6 Marines home with more than the gear they arrived with

Cpl. Matthew E. Habib

Combat Correspondent

**CAMP SCHWAB** — A group of Marines assigned here as part of the Unit Deployment Program will bring home something special when they return to their base at Camp Lejeune, N.C., in December.

Twenty-eight Marines from 1st Battalion, 6th Marines renewed their oaths Oct. 27 during a mass reenlistment ceremony here and will each have a new contract to pack when they leave Okinawa after completing their six-month assignment.

As many Marine leaders continue to be concerned about retention and low first-term reenlistment rates, there was no question for these Marines about the decision they were making, according to Cpl. Thomas W. Williams, infantryman, Headquarters and Service Company, 1/6.

“The Marine Corps has changed me more physically and mentally than I could have changed myself anywhere else,” Williams said. “This is the best choice that I could have made. Staying in the Marine



CPL. MATTHEW E. HABIB

**Sgt. David M. Walsh, Company C, 1/6, takes the oath of enlistment Oct. 27 at Camp Schwab.**

Corps will keep me on the right road; the road that leads toward doing good things with my life.”

Williams said there are many intangible benefits that come with serving as a Marine and that those type of benefits are what

helped him make the choice to stay in.

“When you put this uniform on, everything is different,” Williams said. “You walk and talk like a new man. People notice that.”

Leadership, responsibility and camaraderie are also traits Williams has experienced while serving as a Marine. He said he believes the Marine Corps is unique in the way it provides Marines these traits.

“If you pay attention to the advice your peers and leaders give to you, you will come out a better person for it,” Williams said. “That’s connected to when you take charge of other Marines. From at least a lance corporal up, you could be in charge of Marines and then you are responsible for somebody else.

“You make sure they have their gear, their supplies, and understand what they need to be doing; all the while remembering the lessons and advice your peers have given you.”

Williams said the camaraderie is also special in the Corps.

“I’ve met a lot of people that I would never have the opportunity to talk to if I weren’t in the Marine Corps. I’ve met almost every nationality from every different background, but we have that common

bond because we are all Marines and we’ve become friends.”

Good leadership played a big part in Sgt. Paul P. Torrez’s career. Torrez is a motor transport mechanic, H&S Co.

He said solid leadership helped change his course in the Corps and was a huge factor in determining the type of Marine he has become.

“I’ve met a few particular staff NCO’s and NCO’s that made a huge impact on my attitude,” Torrez said. “During my career, I’ve tried to be like a sponge and soak up the good from every Marine I’ve met. I think that is what a lot of these Marines who reenlisted today have done in the Marine Corps. They’ve constantly tried to better themselves.”

Marine Corps benefits also played a hand in his reenlistment decision, according to Torrez, who has a wife and daughter.

“I’ve been to Spain, Greece, Italy and Israel during my enlistment. I love to travel around the world and see new places, but now I want to be with my family,” Torrez said. “The Marine Corps has offered me college and training toward receiving my mechanic certification. I will also be assigned duty in Hawaii, which is where my brother who is also a Marine is stationed.”



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# Military post offices prepared for holiday rush

## Operating hours extended to handle heavy mail load

Sgt. Robert J. Angus

Combat Correspondent

**CAMP KINSER** – Military Post Offices on Marine Corps installations islandwide are improving standard hours and also extending operating hours to handle the heavier holiday mail load.

Beginning Nov. 13, the normal operating hours will be changing to standardize Military Post Offices islandwide. Also, starting Nov. 18 and continuing on through Dec. 23, Military Posts Offices will be open extended hours for the holidays, according to Master Gunnery Sgt. Robert L. Harper, postal chief, Marine Corps Base.

“We will be working hard to ensure everyone gets their packages before Christmas,” Harper said. “But the customers also have to realize that these Marines already work 60-70 hours a week now. While we operate with extended hours, they will be working just that much harder and longer to complete their mission.”

Many customers don’t realize that even when the post office windows are closed to customers, there are still Marines working behind the scenes getting mail ready to deliver and go out, Harper said.

“We have people requesting longer hours at the post office on a regular basis,” Harper said. “What they don’t realize is that we have Marines sorting mail starting the night before when the mail arrives on island. Then after being sorted, it is distributed to post offices islandwide where it is delivered to the customers’ P.O. Boxes.

“Finally, after the window closes, the Marines finish preparing all the mail they received during the day to go out,” Harper said. “These young Marines are really working hard to keep our customers happy.”

As the postal Marines prepare for the difficult challenge of the holiday rush, the postal officer requests that customers be patient with the Marines working the windows.

“Please be patient with our Marines,” said Chief Warrant Officer-3 Debbie L. Staub, postal officer, MCB. “They are working hard and will do everything they can to meet your mailing needs. At the same time, if you have any problems with our Marines, please feel free to talk to the staff noncommissioned officer in charge.”

Military Post Offices are also looking for volunteers to help out at the service counters during this holiday season, Staub said.

“Anyone who would like to volunteer their time to help us out is welcome,” Staub said. “Just give us a call or send us an e-mail.”

The post office will be closed Nov. 23 for Thanksgiving, Dec. 24 -25 for Christmas and Jan. 1 for New Year’s. For more information on the extended hours or to volunteer, call 637-2468 or e-mail [harperrl@mcbbutler.usmc.mil](mailto:harperrl@mcbbutler.usmc.mil).



CPL. JASON S. SCHAAP

**Lance Cpl. Kenneth Charity, postal clerk, Headquarters and Service Battalion, helps Moira Slattery, right, and Autumn Wetmer mail some holiday packages at the Camp Butler post office. Postal officials are extending hours to handle the heavy holiday mail load.**

## Know your options when mailing a package

Sgt. Robert J. Angus

Combat Correspondent

**CAMP KINSER** — As the holiday mailing season approaches, the Marine Corps Base Consolidated Postal Office is educating their customers on the protection limits of registered mail and the added coverage of insuring items.

“We want to ensure customers understand the difference between registered, insured and registered insured mail,” said Gunnery Sgt. Henry D. Sutton, claims clerk, MCB CPO. “It’s important for customers to understand these differences so there are no surprises if something happens to their packages during shipping.”

The difference between registered and insured mail is that registered mail has a paper trail to follow it through delivery, while insured mail travels through the regular mail system, but a claim can be filed if the package is lost or damaged during shipping, Sutton said.

“Registered mail is the most secure way of sending a package, but if something does happen to that package, customers have no way of filing a claim for damages,” Sutton said. “Insured mail is the customer’s way of getting reimbursed if the contents of their package are lost or damaged during shipping, but there is no way to actually track the route the package takes to get there. Registered mail can be tracked.”

Sending a package registered and insured combines the

features of both methods of mailing, according to Sutton.

“If a package is both registered and insured, it is signed for every time it changes hands,” Sutton said. “If you want to be absolutely sure about your package’s safe delivery, this is the way to go.”

### Military post office’s new operating hours starting Nov. 13

• Camps Foster, Courtney, Kinser and Marine Corps Air Station Futenma:

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (full service)

**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Wednesdays (full service)

**9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Saturdays (parcel pick-up only)

• Camps Hansen, Schwab and Torii Station:

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday (full service)

**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Wednesdays (full service)

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** Friday (full service till 5 p.m. Parcel mailing ceases at 4 p.m.)

• Holiday operating hours Nov. 18-Dec. 23

Holiday hours will be same as hours listed above except:

**9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Saturdays (full service)

## AWARD, continued from page 1

Red Ribbon Week is a national program of anti-drug education and drug abuse awareness sponsored by the National Family Partnership, said Salazar.

Her office assists law enforcement agencies in the war against drugs.

“I take very seriously my role to combat drug abuse in our nation and the Red Ribbon Week observance is one of the measures to accomplish this,” Salazar said. “The Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award recognizes outstanding DoD drug awareness programs, many having service members who volunteer to serve as educators and role models for our youth.

“DoD must encourage its members to become active in drug education and community support,” she added.

Watson said efforts on Okinawa have been focused on prevention and bringing anti-drug messages to the units islandwide.

“We have a dynamic and enthusiastic outreach program by going out to units to make alcohol deglamorization presentations,” Watson said.

He said Japan’s strict stance on illegal drugs are helpful to the military community’s drug prevention efforts on Okinawa.

“We have very few of our people on Okinawa test positive for drugs,” Watson said. “There are drugs here, but accessibility is very limited,” compared to the states.

The award is really for the team effort by the Substance Abuse Center staff and those at the Alcohol Abuse Rehabilitation Department at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester, Watson said.

Salazar noted that the community drug awareness award program was created 10 years ago to encourage service member involvement in keeping communities drug-free and to recognize outstanding outreach programs.

The annual nationwide Red Ribbon campaign originated from the sacrifice of a dedicated federal law enforcement official.

U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency Special Agent Enrique “Kiki” S. Camarena was murdered in 1985 by drug traffickers in Guadalajara, Mexico, outraging many in his hometown of Calexico, Calif. Camarena’s friends and supporters wore red ribbons to honor his memory and signify his courage and dedication in the fight against drugs.

The Red Ribbon’s anti-drug message was taken up by the National Family Partnership as an annual nationwide campaign in 1988. DoD joined the effort in 1990, launching its first Secretary of Defense Community Drug Awareness Award.

Salazar noted that Red Ribbon Week is an opportunity for citizens to “pause during one week of the year, ... and focus on the consequences of drug abuse and on what they can do to combat it.”

# Alcohol-related NJPs III MEF/MCBJ

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for Oct. 22-28.

## • Underage drinking

A lance corporal with 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, was found guilty at company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: restriction and extra duties for 14 days and forfeiture of \$273 for one month.

## • Underage drinking, drunk and disorderly and being in an off-base establishment that serves alcohol after midnight

A private first class and private with Headquarters Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, were found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of the above listed offenses. Punishment: forfeiture of pay ranging from \$300-\$500 for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

## • Violating a lawful order by allowing an underage Marine to consume alcohol

A sergeant with 3rd Transportation Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of contributing to the consumption of alcohol by a minor. Punishment: forfeiture of \$796 for one month and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

## • Underage drinking

A private first class with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$465 for two months and restriction and extra duties for 60 days.

## • Underage drinking

A private first class with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, was found guilty at a company-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: forfeiture of \$263 for one month and restriction and extra duties for 14 days.

## Want to get promoted?

You could help recruit future Marines for your Corps and accumulate points for promotion. 4th Marine Corps District is taking requests for Permissive TAD to help with recruiting. If you are from the 4th district, which includes Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Southern Indiana, and South Western Michigan, contact 4th Marine Corps District.

4th MCD Public Affairs:  
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## To submit a brief ...

The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only. Briefs are run on space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Friday. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit to fit space. Submit briefs by faxing to 645-3803, or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil.



SGT. NATHAN L. HANKS JR.

## VIP smiles

Alphonso Maldon Jr., assistant secretary of defense for force management policy, observes children playing as he toured the Camp Foster Child Development Center Oct. 27. In addition to visiting the CDC, he toured other facilities including the commissary, schools and exchanges. The purpose of Maldon's visit was to take a look at the quality of life programs for Okinawa service members and to see if quality of life issues are affecting force readiness. "I want to find out how readiness is affected, if it is, by quality of life issues," Maldon said. "With this visit, I'm getting first-hand knowledge by talking to people and having an earnest exchange of information." After holding a sensing session with service members aboard Okinawa, Maldon said he got the information he needed.

## Community Briefs

### Killin Elementary bazaar

The E.C. Killin Elementary School is hosting its first Gecko Bazaar Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Nov. 5 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The bazaar will feature furniture vendors from Korea and China and will take place in the school's cafeteria.

### CFC 2000 continues

The Combined Federal Campaign Overseas 2000 is continuing throughout Marine Corps units on Okinawa. So far, contributors with Marine Forces Japan have donated more than \$250,000, but the goal is \$711,000. One important part of the CFC is the ability to give back to your own community directly. By giving to the Family Support and Youth Program, every dollar goes back to programs on Okinawa. To give to FSYP, just enter the code "FSYP" on your donation form. Help "Make a World of Difference." For more information on the CFC, call Bruce Hidaka-Gordon at 645-7242.

### Upcoming Toys for Tots events

Toys for Tots is organizing a variety of events in cooperation with various other organizations islandwide.

These events will either have a toy drop-off station or an entry fee of a new, unwrapped toy.

The following are events scheduled for the month of November.

**Nov. 16** — Camp Foster Great American Smokeout Run.

**Nov. 18** — Toys for Tots kick off at Foster exchange.

**Nov. 19** — Bring a toy to church Sunday.

**Nov. 19** — Kadena Air Base Triathlon.

**Nov. 22** — III MEF golf tournament.

**Nov. 25** — Camp Courtney Toys for Tots Triathlon.

### Volunteers needed

The Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society is looking for volunteers to fill various positions. These include receptionist, interviewing, case workers, publicity, knitting or crocheting for the layette program and volunteer management.

You can work as little as two hours a week and still make a difference in your military community. By volunteering, you help people in need, develop new skills, improve existing talents and make new friends.

Even if you just want to get out of the house for a few hours a week, volunteering with the NMCRS can be an exciting experience. We reimburse for child care and mileage and have openings at our Camps Hansen, Foster, and Kinser offices.

For more information, call 645-7808.

### Marine Corps Birthday celebration

The commander, Marine Corps Bases Japan, is sponsoring a daytime, islandwide uniform pageant and cake cutting ceremony in celebration of the Marine Corps' 225th Birthday.

The ceremony will take place at the Camp Foster soccer field Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. and will consist of a pageant of historical uniforms and a traditional cake cutting.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will move into the Foster Fieldhouse. The uniform for the event is Blue Dress Deltas.

Due to severe traffic flow and parking constraints, bus transportation will be made available from parent commands.

### Interfaith fellowship

On Nov. 19, the Camp Foster Chapel is hosting an Interfaith Fellowship from 3-6 p.m. All faith groups of the chapel will come together to worship and fellowship in unity. This is an opportunity for the community to gather as one. Everyone is invited to attend.

For more information, call 645-7486.

# We often forget the rules for living simple

Halloween is over. The memory of little hands firmly gripping my hands as we moved from house to house trick or treating is yet fresh in my mind.

Perhaps a little "deja vu" of bygone days when our children, who are now grown with their own families, were that age and we accompanied them on that adventurous night. We watched people make a great fuss over them and in some cases pretended to be frightened.

I have memories of their little faces after the night's excursion, aglow over the collection of tooth-decaying products.

Like a consummate drill instructor, their mother barked out orders about brushing their teeth, what goodies would be consumed and which ones would be discarded. And then the prayers of thanksgiving we as parents offered that our children were safe, one more day.

Halloween may be over, but the responsibility of those little hands in our big hands remains. They learn how to choose and what to choose from living with us.

From us, they learn how to respond to anger, to trust, and to live with others. These are impressionable years and we must ensure that our children learn well.

Halloween is over, but the responsibility for raising

our little ones remains.

Freda Gardner, distinguished professor of religious education at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, introduced me to the following article titled "All I Ever Really Need To Know, I Learned in Kindergarten."

"Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do, and how to be, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox at nursery school. These are the things I learned: Share everything. Play fair. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Flush and, for little boys, put the seat down.

"I learned that warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work everyday some. Take a nap in the afternoon. When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. It's okay to wonder, to be in awe.

"Remember the little seed in the plastic cup? The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody knows how or why, but we are all like that. Goldfish and ham-

sters, and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup, all die. And so do we.

"And remember the book about Dick and Jane, see Spot run, and the first word you learned, the biggest word of all, LOOK?"

"Everything you need to know is there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation and hygiene. Ecology and politics and sane living.

"Think of what a better world it would be if we all, the whole world, had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations to always put things back the way they were when we found them and cleaned up our messes.

"And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together."

Yes, Halloween is over, but cherish these early formative years with your child. The years go by fast and there is no 'rewind' on time.

*Navy Capt. Henry Nixon, Jr.,  
Force Chaplain, III MEF*

## Death is an inevitable fact during everyone's life

*"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die..."*  
—Ecclesiastes 3:1-2.

Death is an inevitable fact of all life — a natural continuation of the life cycle. Yet, often we are unwilling to talk seriously about death. Usually, we broach the topic only during a significant incident such as the loss or anticipated loss of a loved one. Even at those times, though, we sometimes have such an aversion to dealing with the issue of death itself that we avoid it altogether. Instead, we discuss only subjects like the technical details of the illness or cause of death and the final arrangements that have to be made. We must discuss death, however, if we are to understand it and come to terms with its role in human life.

Why is talking about death so difficult? When it is the loss of a loved one, the pain of the loss can be overwhelming. Our initial shock may be followed by denial, the refusal to accept the full reality of the loss. We may also feel guilt over not spending enough time with the deceased or over an unresolved conflict. Talking about death after a loss forces us to face the reality of the loss, our guilt, and our anger.

Dealing with the death of another is

also difficult because it forces us to face our fears and anxieties about our own eventual death. Why are we afraid? Is it the fear of ceasing to exist? That may be a part of it, but I believe that the fear is of something even more fundamental. It is not the fear of dying, but of having lived in vain. The prospect of our own death causes us to take stock of our lives.

Honestly confronting these fundamental questions, especially prior to the discovery of a terminal illness or the occurrence of a significant loss, can help us to put our lives in perspective. A sense of our mortality and helplessness can help us to rely on God and focus on what is important and meaningful in life.

Developing an understanding now that death is a natural, normal, and essential part of the life cycle can help lead to acceptance and peace when death or illness does occur.

Is there hope for existence after death? Definitely much of humanity hopes for and believes in life after death. This can be seen in many of the world religions. For instance, some Hindus believe in life after death through reincarnation. In the Bhagavad-Gita, one of the Hindu scriptures, Lord Krishna teaches, "Never was there a time when I did not exist, nor you,

nor all these kings; nor in the future shall any of us cease to be. As the embodied soul continuously passes, in this body, from boyhood to youth to old age, the soul similarly passes into another body at death" (2:12-13a). One's eternal soul, in Hinduism, will also continue to exist even beyond this cycle of death and rebirth by attaining its ultimate goal of union with God. Another example can be found in the Christian Bible which teaches that those who die will be resurrected from the dead: "For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed" (I Corinthians 15:52b). In the Christian account, the righteous will be rewarded and the wicked punished (John 5:28-29, Matthew 25:31-46).

Yet, others believe that death is the end of one's existence. Our task is to decide what we truly believe. If we only pretend to believe in a certain view (heaven, for example) it will be little comfort to us when we lose someone close or are facing our own death. We must decide what we really believe and come to some sort of peace about that belief, even if that belief is that we cannot know what happens on the other side of death.

Deciding this will also help to assess our lives and put them in perspective. For

example, are we living life with heaven in mind? Or, are we living in a manner that we want reflected in our epitaphs? The leadership principle, "Begin with the end in mind" is appropriate for this context also. Live with the end in mind!

Finally, here is some guidance we should heed when we are dealing with people who are terminally ill or about to die. If they bring up the subject of their death, we should allow them to talk about it, their fears, regrets, questions, and hopes. We should not impede their attempts to talk honestly with statements like, "Don't worry, you don't need to talk about this. You'll be okay." If asked, we should share our thoughts and be open about our feelings as well. And, we should be sensitive and patient if they lash out at us in anger.

We will all one day die. This is a fact of life. By discussing it now, we will be able to confront the loss of a loved one and the prospect of our own eventual death with greater confidence, acceptance, and peace. If you would like to discuss your beliefs about death with a minister, please contact your chaplain.

*Navy Lt. Pratik K. Ray,  
CSSG-1 chaplain*

*Reprinted from the Observation Post*

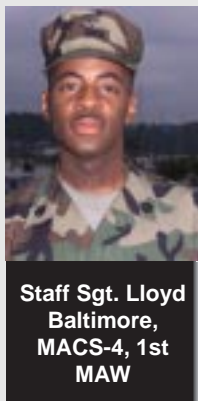
### STREET TALK

"What can leaders do better to protect their Marines from accidents?"



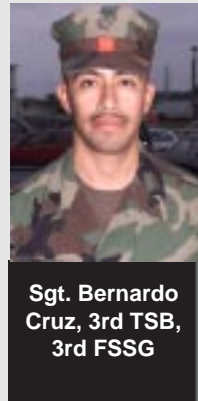
*"Occupy their time. Give them outlets to do things like the Single Marine Program does."*

Gunnery Sgt. Timothy Toney, 7th Comm., III MEF



*"Give more training to make sure Marines understand the consequences of certain actions like drinking and driving or just plain horse play."*

Staff Sgt. Lloyd Baltimore, MACS-4, 1st MAW



*"Look at what their interests are. If you know your Marines, you can recognize if they put themselves in danger."*

Sgt. Bernardo Cruz, 3rd TSB, 3rd FSSG



Sgt. Shawn Hall, H&S Bn., MCB

The Opinion Page welcomes submissions from servicemembers, DoD civilians and family members - let us know what's on your mind. Submissions should be addressed to: Editor, H&S Bn., Public Affairs, Unit 35002, MCB, Camp Butler, FPO AP 96373-5002; e-mails can be sent to: editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Opinions and editorials expressed on the Opinion Page are just that — opinions. They are not necessarily those of the Marine Corps or

*"Relate personal*

# Quest for the



Petty Officer 3rd class Gabriel A. Leyva, a corpsman for the U.S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester, attacks the obstacle course.

# C

# Corpsman's

# CUP

Oki Sailors gather on Okinawa for a week-long grueling field competition with hopes of bringing home the title of best corpsman team of all the island's units

Story and photos by Pfc. Keith R. Meikle

It is for Navy corpsmen what the super squad competition is to Marine infantrymen - a brutal week of sweat-filled battlefield skills testing designed to push Sailors to their limits. Without the highest degree of teamwork, winning the prestigious Corpsman's Cup competition is a "Mission Impossible" scenario.

More than 70 of Okinawa's top corpsmen competed Oct. 23-27 in the annual event that determines which unit has the toughest corpsmen with the sharpest skills. Twelve teams of six corpsmen grunted, climbed, ran and crawled their way to the finish line in hopes of taking home honors as the winning team at the 8th Annual Corpsman's Cup Competition.

Seven events tested the corpsmen's physical endurance and their abilities to successfully complete their medical missions in a combat environment.

"To be a winner they really have to dig deep in every event they participate in," said Petty Officer 2nd class Anthony C. Rivera, who helped coordinate the competition and is an administrative assistant to the command master chief at III Marine Expeditionary Force. "The intestinal fortitude it takes to be No. 1 out here is amazing. That is all that matters to them because second place gets a pat on the back, just like the other 10 teams."

As the corpsmen prepared to tackle the physical and mental challenges of each event, their focus centered on team pride as a way to provide the motivation needed to excel during the rugged competition.

"There is a lot of pride involved in this competition," said Seaman Laura L. Dunn, a corpsman at the orthopedic section, U. S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester. "Everybody wants to be the best. They are always searching to be No.1. The winner of the Cup is the best."

The team taking home top Corpsman's Cup honors

will win more than just a trophy; they will bring home plenty of team pride. They will have the memories of themselves competing together during one of the most physically demanding weeks of their lives and doing it better than anyone else.

The competition began with one of the very few not-so-physical events. The teams took a 100-question written exam. Seventy questions tested their medical knowledge and 30 focused on battle skills they would likely use in a combat zone.

Following the exam, the Sailors tackled a land navigation course through the thick jungle terrain at the Jungle Warfare Training Center.

"Land navigation might not be physical," said Seaman Brian S. Griswold, corpsman, Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, "but it is not easy and can be very frustrating when the navigators get lost."

At the JWTC's endurance course, the Corpsman Cup competition quickly changed gears. The teams were sent through a tough 3.4-mile jungle trail filled with wilderness obstacles. The timed event took them through a course filled with steep, slippery hills, rope bridges and other obstacles. The course concluded with a 3/4-mile combat casualty carry where the teams negotiated the final portion of the course while carrying one of

their teammates as a simulated casualty on a stretcher.

"We didn't expect them to be so motivated and put all of their heart into the events, but they came in and really surprised us," said Sgt. Terry D. Lummus, communications instructor at JWTC.

"They were going for the gold. They trained harder than anyone I've seen since I've been here," said Lummus, who has been at JWTC since June 12 and has watched more than 10 units run through the endurance course.

Just surviving the endurance course was the goal of many teams as they struggled up and down slippery clay hillsides carrying their shipmates to the finish. The stretcher carry portion was the toughest event at the endurance course, many competitors said.

"The stretcher carry portion made us work so hard just to keep going," said Seaman Nathan C. Gomez, a corpsman with scout snipers, 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment. "The hills seemed like they went up forever and toward the end we felt like we were carrying 300 pounds each."

The Corpsman Cup evaluators said they could tell from watching the event that a lot of heart was being put into the endurance course.

"The most amazing thing out there was to see these big strong corpsmen become motionless by the mud on the course," Rivera said. "The mud made it harder to complete. It adds 20 pounds to each corpsman."



Seaman Apprentice Rawley S. Dilley, corpsman, H&S Co., 3rd Med. Bn., 3rd FSSG, struggles to pull himself over an obstacle at Camp Hansen during the 8th Annual Corpsman's Cup Competition, which took place Oct. 23-27.

# U.S. Naval Hospital B team takes top spot at Corpman's Cup for second year

Pfc. Keith R. Meikle

Combat Correspondent

**CAMPHANSEN** — A team of corpsmen assigned to the U. S. Naval Hospital at Camp Lester nabbed their second straight Corpsman's Cup title Oct. 27 after a strong finish to the weeklong competition's final event, the forced march.

The winners from the USNH B team are: Petty Officers 3rd class Cesar C. Blanco and Leander J. Beams, Seamen Jonathan E. Farrow, Christian Camacho, and Charles Green, and Seaman Apprentice Tracy M. Brown.

The team said they relied on strategy and experience to win the 2000 Corpsman's Cup. Beams, an emergency medical technician, and Blanco, an emergency room technician, were both teammates on the hospital's winning squad during the 1999 Corpsman's

Cup competition.

Strategy and experience aside, the winners said the thing that really won it was heart.

"We knew [we couldn't let anybody] beat us if we were going to win," Blanco said. "We used teamwork throughout the competition and just dug deep for the march."

Their drive during the forced march proved to be strong enough as they finished five minutes before the second place team in the event, Company B, 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, who also finished in second place overall for the competition.

"I hope all the competitors take home a sense of pride," said III Marine Expeditionary Force Command Master Chief Gerry E. Williams. "This is very challenging work, but real too. They need to realize what they accomplished and use it in combat situations."



PFC. KEITH R. MEIKLE

**Brig. Gen. Timothy E. Donovan, III Marine Expeditionary Force, pins a Navy Achievement Medal on Petty Officer 3rd Class Leander J. Beams, an emergency medical technician for the U.S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester, during the Corpman's Cup awards presentation at the Chapel on Camp Courtney Oct. 27.**



**The corpsmen from Headquarters and Service Co., 3rd Medical Battalion, maintain their stroking rhythm and ignore the fatigue they were already feeling during the casualty rescue event.**

Following the endurance course, the teams received a break from physical exercise and fired 9mm pistols for score. The shooting event provided only a brief break. The obstacle course presented a new set of challenges for the teams.

The obstacle course was a team event filled with time penalties for failure of any team member to negotiate an obstacle. Teams expecting a chance at winning the event would have to successfully complete every obstacle. Severe time penalties were issued to teams with any obstacle left unconquered.

Following the obstacle course, the corpsmen said they knew their bodies would need plenty of rest to get ready for the combat recovery event the next day. During the combat recovery, the corpsmen assembled, transported and paddled a small rubber boat called a Zodiac to and from a small island offshore from Camp Schwab.

"The choppy water really makes it difficult because the front [of the boat] is always up in the air and sometimes you can't even reach the water with the paddle," said Petty Officer 3rd class Cesar C. Blanco, an emergency medical technician at U.S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester.

The final event facing the teams was an eight-mile forced march. Sailors strapped on their packs and tightened the laces on their boots. With their muscles aching from the previous days' events, the corpsmen would discover the ultimate limits of their strength and endurance during the march. All corpsmen began the event at the same time, but team rules required their pace be set to the slowest member on a given team.

"All of these events require teamwork," said Master Chief Petty Officer Gerry E. Williams, command master chief, III MEF. "Teamwork is necessary to carry out field operations that corpsmen perform."



**Seaman Laura L. Dunn, corpsman, orthopedic department, U.S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lester, maintains her balance on the obstacle course.**



**Petty Officer 3rd class Daniel J. Bornstein, a corpsman for 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, fires away with accuracy to help his team get 3rd place in the 9mm service pistol event during the 8th Annual Corpsman's Cup Competition.**



Truck Co. Marines complete a lot of safety training before driving on the small roads of Okinawa.

PHOTOS BY CPL. MATTHEW E. HABIB

# Driving on Okinawa roadways can be a TIGHT Squeeze



Cpl. James P. Rochin, motor transport operator, Truck Co., recently set a unit record for driving the most accident-free miles on Okinawa roadways.

## Cpl. Matthew E. Habib

Combat Correspondent

**CAMP HANSEN** – Marines assigned to Okinawa might notice some differences between driving on roadways here and those in the United States.

Lane direction, smaller roads and strange traffic signs are just a few of the most noticeable differences faced by drivers. These differences can be dangerous, especially for U.S. service members who drive as part of their official duties.

The Marines of Truck Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division face the dangers and challenges of driving on Okinawan roadways on a large scale. When they go to work, they climb into the cabs of gigantic three and five-ton trucks.

Truck Co. Marines have taken their unit's safety procedures to an equally large scale. With more than 180,000 miles logged annually on Okinawa, the Marines take the road risks seriously and are among the best when it comes to driving safety.

Marines new to the unit are immediately prepared for Okinawa's tougher driving conditions by the unit's veteran drivers, according to Capt. Scott R. Johnson, commanding officer, Truck Co.

"When the new motor transport Marines arrive on Okinawa, they are already arriving with the basic skills," Johnson said. "With the unfamiliar conditions they face on the island, we have to prepare them properly. First, they go through a driver improvement course on Okinawa. Depending on what type of vehicles they are driving, they will also receive a certain amount of class (instruction) before they are authorized to drive any unfamiliar vehicles."

Marines trained to drive busses, for example, participate in 40 hours of classroom instruction to be fully qualified and authorized by the unit to drive on the island, Johnson said. Truck Co. Marines also train for conditions they will likely face on the streets of Okinawa.

"We hold events all the time that challenge the Marines in many different aspects," Johnson said.



While driving, tight situations may call for some precise maneuvering of the big trucks.

The unit's outstanding safety is a result of the work from Marines like Cpl. James P. Rochin, motor transport operator, Truck Co. He recently broke the unit's record for accident-free miles logged. Rochin has more than 1,300 miles and is close to achieving 1,400 miles. His safe record has not come without some tense moments that have required calm thinking and quick actions, according to Rochin.

"The cars are so small and are hard to see," Rochin said. "They will jolt right in front of you. Most of the time, I drive the five-tons and there is one particular situation that sticks out in my mind.

"I was coming around a corner and a car pulled right out in front of me. I had to brake, swerve and keep control of the five-ton to avoid hitting him. I had a close call that day."

The unit's mechanics are key to keeping vehicles in safe condition. Without the 10 Marine mechanics, who are responsible for the upkeep of Truck Co.'s 140 vehicles, and the quality control Marines who ensure the vehicles are road ready, the unit

likely would not be able to boast such a solid safety record. The Marines follow a strict safety program, said Staff Sgt. Marty J. Stiles, maintenance chief, Truck Co.

"This unit's vehicles log 180,000 miles per year in support of Marines around the island," Stiles said. "What keeps the trucks rolling is the attention to detail put into these vehicles. They're fixed right the first time and move to a quality control Marine, who inspects again."

"By the time a vehicle gets back into rotation, even the smallest details have been checked over. If I don't see a truck back in here for a couple of months, I know we're doing our jobs right," Stiles said.

As long as the Marines continue striving for safety excellence, the Truck Co. will stay on its path of being one of the best vehicle units in the Marine Corps today, said Cpl. Nathan K. Ehasz, safety representative, Truck Co.

"We came in second two years ago and first last year for the DoD Safe Driving Award," Ehasz said. "Thousands and thousands of safe driving miles, tons and tons of gear ... no incidents. Our record speaks for itself."

# Island USOs 'deliver America' to Okinawa

Organization provides overseas entertainment for service members and families on Okinawa

Sgt. Robert J. Angus

*Combat Correspondent*

**KADENA AIR BASE** — For nearly 60 years, the United Service Organization has followed service members around the world bringing with it a little bit of America through celebrity entertainment, community centers and mobile canteens.

USO operations on Okinawa are no different. The USO has four family and community centers islandwide which provide morale, welfare and recreation-type services to uniformed military personnel and their families, according to Kathy Hayes, marketing director, USO Japan.

"We're here to 'deliver America' to our service members and their families as they serve their country by spanning the globe," said Hayes, who has worked with the USO for more than two years. "We're here for all services and from my experience, when service members see our logo, no matter where in the world they are, they associate it with home. They always know they are welcome."

"When I see the USO logo, I know that it's a place where my daughter and I can go to hang out, watch movies, play games and just relax," said Gunnery Sgt. Ulysess C. Lee, career planner, Marine Wing Support Group-17, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, who first experienced the USO in Hawaii in 1984. "It's a home-type environment where you don't have to do anything if you don't want to and nobody will bother you."

The USO family and community centers located on Camps Schwab and Hansen, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and here offer patrons a variety of services. The centers on Camps Hansen and Schwab and MCAS Futenma provide a place for personnel to come watch free movies, use the

cyber cafes with e-mail access and phones, buy souvenirs and enjoy both American and Okinawan cuisine in the USO snack bar, according to Hayes.

"Each USO center is run a little differently," Hayes said. "For example, the USO here at Kadena is focused more on family events, while the centers on Hansen and Schwab focus on taking care of service members here on the Unit Deployment Program.

"The USOs on Hansen and Schwab are set up to show movies and give UDP personnel, who don't bring much with them, a place to hang out," Hayes said. "We also hold special events like barbecues for them where the food is free. Most of our special events are free. If it's not free for our customers, we don't like to do it."

In addition to special events and activities, all USOs on island participate in the celebrity tours that come to Okinawa, according to Hayes.

"We try to get the celebrity tours to stop here on Okinawa as often as possible," Hayes said. "We were able to get the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders here last year and hope to be able to do something this year as well. Something that we rely on for our celebrity tours are Combined Federal Campaign donations.

"The CFC donations are what fund these tours. We have a strong history with the military because of our early celebrity tours, and we hope to continue the legacy."

Whether service members are deployed, stationed overseas or just have time to fill during a layover at an airport, USO's centers will continue to "deliver America," according to Hayes.

"We strive to make the USO a home away from home," Hayes said. "We're here to support you, so come enjoy our food and make yourselves at home."



SGT. ROBERT J. ANGUS

**Yolanda R. Vorachek, military spouse, performs the Spanish Las Sevillanas Flamenco dance at the Kadena USO Pumpkin Patch Family Fun Day Oct. 28. Vorachek learned the dance at a free class sponsored by the USO, one of their many programs offered on Okinawa.**

## Volunteers teach language of friendship at Camp Hansen



PFC. KEITH R. MEIKLE

**Seaman Apprentice Jason A. Jacobsen, corpsman, 3rd Medical Battalion, helps children from Kin Town's Suginko School learn English during a visit to Camp Hansen Oct. 28.**

Pfc. Keith R. Meikle

*Combat Correspondent*

**CAMP HANSEN** — A group of Marines and Sailors here woke up a little earlier than usual Saturday so they could play a game of Red Rover.

Volunteers from 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group here hosted 20 preschoolers from the Suginko School in Kin Town Oct. 28 for a day of games, friendship, and English lessons.

"This program works really well because the children love the interaction with the Marines and Sailors, who are more than willing to be mentors," said Tina Reckling, a military spouse who volunteered to help the Marines and Sailors teach the children English.

The children practiced their English skills by participating in traditional songs and games familiar to most American kids like "Red Rover" and the "Hokey-Pokey." The children also played games giving the Marines and Sailors commands, such as "run, jump and stop."

Marines and Sailors served as obstacles and refused to allow the children to pass unless the proper English word, such as "over" or "under," were spoken correctly. "This is a great way to get the kids out of the classroom and learn English at the same time," Reckling said.

Marines and Sailors said they enjoyed working with the children too.

"This is the best Saturday I have spent in a while," said Lance Cpl. Cory C. Palmer, a motor transport mechanic at 3rd Med. Bn., who is enrolled in an off-duty Japanese language class. Palmer said he saw an internal unit e-mail message asking Marines and Sailors to help with the event. He volunteered to spend time with the children as a way to practice the new language he is studying at school and make friends with some of his Okinawan neighbors.

"The kids knew a lot of English," Palmer said. "I was surprised. They knew as much English as I knew Japanese."

The volunteers said the time spent with the preschoolers was personally satisfying and provided them time to relax and have fun.

"This is a great time for the Marines and Sailors to relax from work and just have fun by helping the kids," said Petty Officer 3rd class Amy F. Italiano, chaplain's assistant for 3rd Med. Bn.

"Events like this allow the kids to see the Americans in a great light, and the Sailors and Marines love being around the kids too," Reckling said.

The Marines and Sailors have become friends with the children and have been invited to attend an upcoming sports day at the Suginko School.

The unit also sponsored an annual Easter egg hunt and several community relations projects during last year's Christmas holiday season as well.

# Samurai slash Islanders 28-14

*In final regular season game Kubasaki's offense proves too much for Kadena in homecoming matchup.*

**Pfc. Damian J. McGee**

*Combat Correspondent*

**CAMP BUTLER** — In their homecoming matchup against the Kadena Islanders, the Kubasaki Samurai quickly took control of the game. In a game that started with five quick turnovers, the Samurais were able to score 14 unanswered points in the first half.

Led by sophomore running back Andre Johnson, who had five yards receiving, 162 yards rushing, and 34 carries, the Samurais seemed unstoppable. According to coach Jim Hall, the plan for the game came down to three simple rules.

"We worked on and talked about three things all week," Hall said. "One was controlling the ball. The second was making sure that our offensive and defensive line contained their offensive and defensive lines and to keep the ball out of the hands of their tailback."

The Samurai maintained their lead throughout the second quarter and left the Islanders scoreless going into the half.

As the second half started, the Islanders came out with a new intensity, quickly scoring their first seven points of the game. The Islanders seemed to be turning the tables, scoring again in the third quarter and holding the Samurai to only seven additional points.

"We were letting them do exactly what we didn't want," Hall said. "They were getting the ball into the hands of Reggie Williams and Tory Carter, the Island-



PFC. DAMIAN J. MCGEE

**Samurai running back Scott Hill advances for a first down after receiving a hand off from quarterback Ryan Hall during the Samurai's victory over the Islanders 28-14 Oct. 20 at Mike Petty Stadium.**

ers running backs."

The Samurai came out in the fourth quarter with the single goal of squelching the fire the Islanders seemed to possess in the second half. The Samurai immediately shut down the running game of the Islanders and added some additions to their own running game. Samurai quarterback Ryan Hall helped to seal the fate of the Islanders late in the fourth quarter with an ex-

plosive run that put the Samurai in position to score once again.

The Samurai finished off the Islanders and their season with a record of 5-1, and now set their sights on the Rising Sun Bowl.

"We have a very young team, and I don't think they understand how much they've accomplished so far," Hall said. "They've come a long way."

## Okinawa's fastest gather at annual track and field meet

**Pfc. Damian J. McGee**

*Combat Correspondent*

**CAMP BUTLER** — For many, track and field excitement ended with the closing ceremonies of the 2000 Olympics. But for some track and field enthusiasts on Okinawa there was still plenty of running and jumping left.

Competitors of all ages gathered here Oct. 22 in the 2nd Annual Semper Fit Islandwide Track and Field Meet.

The Marine Corps Community Services-sponsored event included seven running events and three field events.

The competition was very diverse, including a brother and sister team who won every event they en-

tered and a pair of male and female sprinters who both previously qualified for the Junior Olympics.

"The purpose of the track meet is to give people a chance to relive their glory days," said James Biggins, a sports specialist with MCCS. "A lot of people can talk, but this is a way to tell who's really faster than who and still have fun at the same time."

The meet did not have the expected turnout after some weather-related scheduling problems, but was still very successful, according to Biggins.

"We're not sure why we didn't have the Okinawan involvement we expected," Biggins said. "We're going to hold the event on a Saturday the next time, which will hopefully get more people out."

The next track and field event is in the works for March 2001, but no specific date has been set.



PHOTOS BY PFC. DAMIAN J. MCGEE

**(above) Don Hudson rounds the track on his way to easily winning the men's 400 meter race. (left) Steven Engstrom prepares to run his leg of the men's 4x100 relay.**

## Island bowlers sought for 2001 All-Marine trials

**Consolidated Public Affairs Office**

With the recent addition of bowling to the 2001 Armed Forces Sports Calendar, Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit Athletics is seeking a few good Marines to try out for the All-Marine Bowling Team trials Feb. 18-24 at Camp Lejeune.

Marines selected for the try outs will participate in a 24-game roll off at trials in North Carolina.

The top six men and top six women will then proceed to the Armed Forces Championship scheduled for Feb. 25 - Mar. 4, at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Va.

The top male and female Marines at the Armed Forces Championship will represent the Marine Corps at the Team USA Bowling Championship in Reno, Nev., Dec. 10-14, 2001.

Marines interested in attending the Camp Lejeune trials must submit their resumes, in accordance with Marine Corps Order P.1700.29, by Dec. 1.

Resumes must provide proof of current bowling average, a minimum of 195 for men and 160 for women, and a command endorsement of the Marine's eligibility to attend all events, if selected.

Resumes should be sent through local MCCS Semper Fit Athletic Directors. Information on the required format for resumes can be found at [www.usmc-mccs.org](http://www.usmc-mccs.org), under "Policy."

# Okinawan RCs invited to airspace invasion



Story and photos by  
Cpl. Jason Schaap

## Enthusiasts take to the skies for radio-controlled competition

**MCAS FUTENMA** — Okinawan and American radio-controlled aircraft enthusiasts came together for the first ever Okinawa Aerobatics Competition held on the flightline here Oct. 22.

According to competition coordinator Jack Hamilton, 32 pilots entered the competition to test their flight pattern precision. Judging the competitors were four representatives from Okinawan aircraft clubs attending the day-long event.

One of the judges, Noboru Teruya, who has been flying radio-controlled aircraft on Okinawa for 30 years, said Marine Corps Air Station Futenma was the ideal location on Okinawa for the competition.

“(The station) is the perfect place to fly,” Teruya said. “This is the only place here you don’t have to worry about things like traffic and the location. It is very convenient for competitors. We are very grateful for the authorities who offered us this opportunity.”

Like Teruya, Hamilton and other competitors openly expressed their gratitude toward the station officials that permitted the event.

“We chose to have the competition here because it’s the ideal place and officials like Lt. Col. Lawrence Long, station operations officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, and Mr. David Cascarella, assistant airfield operations officer, were such great supporters,” Hamilton said.

Stanley Potts, a member of the Okinawa Flyers Club, a mostly American flyers club on the island,



Radio-controlled aircraft of all size, colors and shapes were on display at the Okinawa Aerobatics Competition at MCAS Futenma Oct. 22.

said he recalls when flying radio-controlled aircraft was common at Futenma when he was stationed here many years ago. According to Potts, if more service members on Okinawa had the chance to experience flying radio controlled aircraft, the result could be very positive.

“For example, if a place was made available for working on aircraft, it might provide a way for troops to better spend their time,” Potts said.

Beginners and experienced flyers should have a chance to show off their flying skills in March, when Hamilton said he hopes to have another competition. Next fall he plans on putting together a much bigger competition with some of the best flyers in the world in attendance.



Hiroshi China waits for the signal to let a plane go for takeoff.



Hiroshi Te Ruya shows Yukuri Izumi, a broadcaster for the Ryukyu Broadcasting Corp., that those with no prior experience can easily learn to fly radio-controlled aircraft. Te Ruya and Izumi were among many who attended the first Okinawa Aerobatics Competition.

# The Marketplace



## Automobiles/ motorcycles

**1987 Toyota Hilux 4X4** — JCI Sep 01, \$2,500. Doug, 090-1874-3144.  
**1996 Honda Shadow** — JCI Apr 02, \$5,000 OBO. Don, 622-5162.  
**1990 Toyota Hilux 4X4** — JCI Dec 01, \$5,000 OBO; **1992 Mitsubishi Mirage** — JCI Aug 02, \$2,000 OBO. \$6,000 for both. Sean, 622-5237.  
**1987 Toyota Corsa** — JCI Mar 02, \$1,200 OBO. Dan, 646-3619.  
**1989 Toyota Town Ace** — JCI Jun 02, \$1,500; **1991 Toyota** — JCI Aug 01, \$800. Mike, 645-5389.  
**1989 Nissan Skyline** — JCI Feb 01, \$1,500. Marlon, 622-8287.  
**1991 Mitsubishi Diamante** — JCI Sep 02, \$3,200. Proto, 622-5303.  
**1988 Toyota Camry** — JCI Oct 01, \$1,300 OBO; **1989 Mitsubishi Pajero** — JCI Jun 02, \$3,000. 622-5188.  
**1989 Nissan Largo** — \$2,500 OBO. 622-5413.  
**1988 Toyota Carina** — JCI Nov 01, \$1,400 OBO. Noel, 622-8796.  
**1990 Honda Inspire** — JCI Aug 02, \$2,700 OBO. Don or Julie, 622-5162.  
**1987 Toyota Surf** — \$3,500. Leslie, 633-5592.  
**Ford Festiva** — JCI Apr 01, \$800. Thad, 632-3163.  
**1987 Susuki Gemini** — JCI Nov 01, \$200 OBO. 933-7707.  
**1996 Honda Shadow** — JCI Apr 02, \$5,000 OBO. Don, 622-5162.  
**1991 Honda Ascot** — JCI Apr 02, \$2,800. 622-8300.  
**1986 Toyota Supra** — JCI Dec 01, \$500. Joe, 090-7445-3879.  
**1991 Toyota Trueno** — JCI Jul 02, \$2,500. Jim, 646-6056 or 645-4198.  
**1989 Nissan Langley** — JCI Dec 00, \$600. 972-6844, or 622-7458.  
**1989 Honda Integra** — JCI Apr 02, \$2,800. 646-4234.  
**1986 Toyota Supra** — JCI Dec 01, \$500. Joe, 090-7445-3879.  
**1987 Toyota MR2** — JCI Oct 02. HM3 Rodriguez, 645-2618/7730.  
**1989 Ace Wagon** — JCI Oct 02, \$3,450. John, 090-3196-2087.  
**1989 Nissan Largo** — JCI Aug 02, \$2,500. Sgt. Hernandez, 622-0039.  
**1991 Toyota Supra** — JCI Sep 02, \$2,500 OBO. 090-9785-5108.



## Miscellaneous

**Misc.** — Iron custom made canopy bed; computer desk. 646-4618.  
**Misc.** — Home decoration items including decorative fans, small heart-shaped wreaths, heart-shaped jewelry holder and more. Jennifer, 622-8412.  
**Misc.** — Women's suits sz. 8-10, \$35; black velvet gown, \$35; cell phone, \$25; mini-skirts, \$12; assorted blouses; Hawaiian shirts, \$8; golf shirts, \$15. Jennifer, 622-8412.  
**Lost cat** — Orange/tan male cat. Last seen in Chatan housing area. If you have information, call 646-6833.  
**Washer and Dryer** — New Whirlpool washer and dryer, super capacity plus models, \$300 each or \$500 for both. 646-4885.  
**Furniture** — Korean Hibachi table, 44x27x20, \$225 OBO. 622-8719.  
**Misc.** — In-step "Zoomer" jogger stroller, used a few times, almost new. Asking \$45. Old model, doesn't recline, but good for child other than infant. Jen at 646-8621.  
**Misc.** — Two dive tanks, \$50 each. Playstation video games. 622-6472.  
**Misc.** — Book for sale. "The Guide to Genuine Home Work Opportunities," contains companies that pay for work done in spare time. 090-9785-5108.  
**Misc.** — Large dog kennel/carrier, used once, outstanding condition. Asking \$400. Call Louis or Mary at 646-2627.  
**Misc.** — Television and VCR, \$200; weight bench and weights, \$150; dining table set, \$150; twin bed w/ mattress, \$150; paintball gun, \$150; Aiwa stereo, \$50; coffee table, \$20. Ben, 623-7341 or 926-1666.  
**Misc.** — 'AT' style server case, 250w, floppy drive, \$40; full size 'AT' style tower case, 250w, five open CD ROM bays, holds three HDDs, floppy drive, \$60. Joe, 646-5785.  
**Furniture** — Spiegel brass/white bakers rack, \$85; burgandy camelback style sofa and loveseat, \$250; antique display cabinet, \$350. 622-5178.  
**Misc.** — 7' 10" Tim Nolte tri-fin surfboard, Pro-Lite travel bag, \$450 OBO; GT mountain bike frame w/ RockShox, \$350; Jay, 646-8226.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. **Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week.** The deadline for ads is **noon, Fridays, space permitting.** The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to [editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil](mailto:editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil)



# Coming to a theater near you ...

Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice! Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

## Butler (645-3465)

Fri The Contender (R); 7:00, 10:00  
Sat The Kid (PG); 1:00  
Sat Replacements (PG13); 4:00  
Sat The Contender (R); 7:00, 10:00  
Sun The Kid (PG); 1:00  
Sun Replacements (PG13); 4:00  
Sun The Contender (R); 7:00, 10:00  
Mon Bless the Child (R); 7:00  
Tue Bless the Child (R); 7:00  
Wed Bless the Child (R); 7:00  
Thu Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00

## Courtney (622-9616)

Fri Nutty Professor 2 (PG13); 7:00, 9:30  
Sat Space Cowboys (PG13); 7:00  
Sun Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00  
Wed Meet the Parents (PG13); 7:00

## Futenma (636-3890)

Fri Scary Movie (R); 7:30  
Sat Space Cowboys (PG13); 7:30  
Sun Coyote Ugly (R); 7:30  
Mon Meet the Parents (PG13); 7:30  
Wed The Contender (R); 7:30

## Hansen (623-4564)

Fri Remember the Titan (PG)  
Sat Remember the Titan (PG)  
Sun Replacements (PG13)  
Mon Bless the Child (R)  
Tue Bless the Child (R)  
Wed Space Cowboys (PG13)  
Thu The Kid (PG)

Call Hansen for start times

## Keystone (634-1869)

Fri Meet the Parents (PG13); 6:30, 9:00  
Sat The Kid (PG); 1:00  
Sat Meet the Parents (PG13); 5:30, 8:30  
Sun The Kid (PG); 2:00  
Sun Bless the Child (R); 5:30, 8:30  
Mon Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00  
Tue Scary Movie (R); 7:00  
Wed Replacements (PG13); 7:00  
Thu Closed for base function

## Kinser (637-2177)

Fri Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00  
Sat The Kid (PG); 3:00  
Sat Bedazzled (PG13); 7:00, 11:30  
Sun Bless the Child (R); 7:00  
Mon Replacements (PG13); 7:00  
Tue Replacements (PG13); 7:00  
Wed Bless the Child (R); 7:00  
Thu Replacements (PG13); 7:00

## Schwab (625-2333)

Fri Space Cowboys (PG13)  
Sat Space Cowboys (PG13)  
Sat Coyote Ugly (R)  
Sun Space Cowboys (PG13)  
Sun Coyote Ugly (R)  
Mon Coyote Ugly (R)  
Tue Bedazzled (PG13)  
Wed Bedazzled (PG13)

Call Schwab for start times

